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ANNUAL REPORT

OF

New Hampshire
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JUL 3 1896

No. 47130

THE OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF PLYMOUTH,

COMPRISING THOSE OF THE

*Treasurer, Selectmen, Overseer of the Poor,
School Committee, etc., etc.,*

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1883.

PLYMOUTH, N. H.

C. H. KIMBALL, WATER MOTOR JOB PRINT.

1883.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

*R. O. Wright, Treasurer, in account with the Town
of Plymouth.*

April 4, 1881.

DR.

To taxes in hands of collector, for 1881,	\$989 72	
cash of John Mason, former treasurer,	2,114 82	
	<hr style="width: 100px; display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"/> \$3,104 54	
 To taxes assessed in year 1882,	 11,734 37	
Cash from State Treasurer,		
Railroad tax,	1,859 78	
Savings bank tax,	935 54	
Literary fund,	140 30	
Cash of State Treasurer, bounties on crows,	7 70	
	<hr style="width: 100px; display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"/> 14,677 69	
 To cash from County, support of paupers,	 240 60	
received for licenses on billiard table,	20 00	
received for highway dis- trict No. 4, highway tax, 1881,	8 35	
	<hr style="width: 100px; display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"/> 268 95	

PLYMOUTH TOWN REPORT.

To cash received of town of Dorches-	
ter for support of Mrs.	
Ripley,	39 00
To cash received of town of Holderness	
on account of lighting bridge,	12 81
Town of Campton for vaccinating R.	
R. laborers,	4 00
	<hr/> \$18,106 99

By Cash paid out as follows:

CR.

James A. Penniman, journey to	
Dorchester and team,	\$3 00
A. Burleigh, for decorating soldiers	
graves,	75 00
C. H. Kimball, printing report and	
blanks,	27 00
F. W. A. Robie, care of Town hall,	3 00
A. W. Avery, on account of ceme-	
tery,	50 00
A. G. Smythe, county tax,	2,500 00
L. M. Howe, over tax on poll,	1 82
F. W. A. Robie, care of Town hall,	
November 7,	2 00
Robert W. Mitchell, setting on	
school district case,	4 00
D. H. Currier, stationery and hand-	
cuffs,	9 87
George W. Garland, moving safe,	10 50
L. L. Draper, work on tomb,	2 75
Alfred Cook, plan of cemetery and	
surveying highway,	17 00
Drs. Samborn & Burns, vaccinating	
R. R. men,	17 00
Webster, Russell & Co., wood for	
selectmen's office,	1 50

PLYMOUTH TOWN REPORT.

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Paid S. A. Carter, state tax,	\$1,620 00	
Burrows & Jewell, services in		
Wooster case,	41 00	
Mason, Weeks & Co., articles for		
lobby,	1 08	
Flanders & Gould, stove and funnel,	8 83	
Burleigh & Adams, use of Town		
hall,	55 00	
A. W. Avery, account of cemetery,	34 89	
T. Pressey, land for lobby,	15 00	
P. Fox, stationery, oil, twisters,		
table and wood for select-		
men's office,	23 77	
	<hr/>	\$4,524 01

BRIDGE ACCOUNT.

Paid I. M. Merrill, lighting Pemigewasset		
bridge,	5 00	
Geo. A. Clark, timber in Clark's		
bridge,	5 25	
Walter W. Smith, removing rubbish		
from bridge,	4 00	
Leonard Colburn, lighting Pem-		
igewasset bridge,	5 00	
J. C. Berry, labor on Lower In-		
tervale bridge,	190 00	
H. L. Sargent, work on bridge,	5 00	
Geo. W. Garland, work on		
bridges, Districts 3 & 12,	35 40	
Mary E. Reed, drawing lumber		
for bridges,	2 00	
David Glynn, work on bridge,	5 60	
John Nutting, plank and lum-		
ber for bridge,	16 11	

Paid Leonard Colburn, lighting Pem-		
igewasset bridge,	\$10 00	
Moses Sargent, lighting Baker's		
river bridge,	15 00	
M. S. Brown, work on bridge,	2 00	
B. F. St. Clair, oil for bridge,	2 30	
F. M. Morse, bridge plank,	3 16	
D. H. Currier, work on bridge,	10 00	
	<hr/>	\$315 82

SCHOOL MONEY.

District No. 1,		
School money,	\$139 72	
Special tax,	30 00	
	<hr/>	169 72
District No. 2,		
School money,	876 61	
Special taxes, (John Mason, 300, L.		
M. Howe, 300,)	600 00	
	<hr/>	1,476 61
District No. 3.		
School money,		122 28
District No. 4.		
School money,	64 43	
Special tax, J. Ash,	115 00	
	<hr/>	179 43
District No. 5.		
School money,		59 30
District No. 6.		
School money,		156 55
District No. 8.		
School money,		82 87

PLYMOUTH TOWN REPORT.

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District No. 9.	
School money,	\$120 15
District No. 12.	100 68
Union with Bridgewater.	
School money,	35 42
Union with Hebron.	
School money,	25 60
	<hr/>
	\$2,413 61

ABATEMENTS.

Taxes abated for 1881,	\$71 59
" " 1882,	135 12
	<hr/>
	\$206 71

BOUNTIES.

Ann M. Mitchell, sheep killed by dogs,	\$12 00
M. S. Brown, " " "	9 00
O. B. Davis, " " "	3 00
Plummer Fox, paying bounty on crows,	7 70
	<hr/>
	\$31 70

Overseer of Poor for support of paupers,	\$525 25
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HEARSE ACCOUNT.

J. Keeble, services with hearse at two funerals,	\$4 00
L. L. Draper, services with hearse at 17 funerals,	34 00
L. L. Draper, shoveling path to tomb,	75
Cyrus Moore, one funeral,	2 00
	<hr/>
	\$40 75

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

B. F. St. Clair, record births, deaths and marriages,	\$12 70
Enos Huckins, " " "	75
T. Rogers, " " "	1 00
J. A. Samborn, " " "	5 75
	<hr/>
	\$20 20

PUBLIC WATERING TROUGHS.

Calvin A. Lewis, 1881-2	\$6 00
C. H. Morrill, "	6 00
T. J. Adams, "	6 00
E. A. Moulton, 1882,	1 50
John Ash, work on stone trough,	3 00
G. W. Martin, 1882,	3 00
	<hr/>
	\$25 50

FIRE DISTRICT ACCOUNT.

Paid A. Burleigh, fire precinct tax,	\$1,200 00
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POLICE ACCOUNT.

Cash paid on acct. of police,	\$120 80
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NOTE ACCOUNT.

Principal on notes taken up,	\$3,146 78
Interest on same and notes outstanding,	558 11
	<hr/>
	\$3,704 89

TOWN OFFICERS.

A. S. Hazelton, services as S. S. Com- mittee, 1881,	31 00
W. W. Wilkinson, bal. as collector, 1881,	45 00
" " in part " 1882,	75 00
John M. Russell, as supervisor,	10 00
B. F. St. Clair, stationery and as town clerk,	76 75

PLYMOUTH TOWN REPORT.

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E. B. Hodge, services as health officer, 1881,	\$5 00
M. A. Ferrin, labor and services as health officer,	16 50
James A. Penniman, services as selectman,	100 00
D. H. Currier, " " "	158 00
R. O. Wright, " treasurer,	100 00
W. W. Wilkinson, dist. blanks and extra pay,	35 00
W. W. Wilkinson, services in part, 1882,	75 00
D. H. Currier, " overseer of poor,	35 00
A. S. Hazelton, as S. S. committee, 1882,	50 00
A. Burleigh and A. W. Avery, auditors,	6 00
Plummer Fox, selectman,	75 00
C. M. Smith, supervisor,	10 00
H. C. Currier, supervisor,	12 00

\$915 25

HIGHWAY ACCOUNT.

Geo. Downing, breaking roads,	\$6 50
Nelson Downing, " " "	5 75
H. L. Sargent, " " "	6 20
Joseph Yeaton, work on roads,	75
C. H. Morrill, " " "	7 50
Noah D. Melvin, " " "	2 62
Chas. E. Merrill, damage to wagon,	1 50
Joseph Blodgett, work on highway,	1 87
W. D. Blodgett, " " "	6 37
C. H. George, plank and lumber,	2 60
J. L. Whipple, breaking roads,	3 75
E. B. Hodge, plank and nails for sidewalk,	4 50
Wm. H. Marshall, work on highway,	50 00
E. L. Smith, " " "	6 30
Chas. Spaulding, plank for bridge,	68 45
D. B. Mitchell, work, non resident highway tax,	1 50
Geo. P. Cook, railing Fair Ground hill,	12 85
S. K. Wescott, extra work on highway,	5 88
Noah D. Melvin, damage to horse,	10 00

W. Fales & Currier & Co., work on highway,	\$2 00
P. Fox, money paid building Steven's road,	50 00
C. R. Crawford, breaking roads,	5 10
William R. Park, building road to Park's mill,	200 00
N. Cayes, cutting bushes on highway,	3 50
H. H. Downing, extra work on highway,	5 50
Ira Mitchell, breaking roads,	3 35
John X. Brown, work on highway,	1 20
Chas. George, gravel for " "	3 00
Joseph Yeaton, breaking roads,	4 12
William H. Marshall, breaking roads,	46 00
Alfred Cook, over work on highway, 1881,	6 00
Nelson Downing, breaking roads,	5 37
G. A. Calley, " "	17 82
D. R. Bartlett, " "	12 70
C. W. Nelson, " "	19 45
William A. Draper, " "	14 00
E. S. Weeks, " "	11 19
C. R. Crawford, " "	11 25
O. B. Clay, " "	3 45
William Harriman, " "	17 50
James Peabody, " "	11 56
Chas. H. Morrill, " "	18 04
Chas. H. Morrill, gravel for roads,	3 00
John Ash, breaking roads,	4 75
Isaac Huckins, " "	44
James Cummings, " " and work on bridge,	20 19
A. Hardy, work in district 17, 1881,	3 00
James Peniman, breaking roads,	7 00
D. M. Lufkin, cutting bushes, and breaking roads,	61 70
Stephen K. Wescott, breaking roads,	13 25
E. L. Smith, " "	10 00
S. M. Morse, " "	3 31
William Palmer, land for winter road,	5 00
Fred R. Blodgett, breaking roads,	2 87

PLYMOUTH TOWN REPORT.

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Willis Kidder, for breaking roads,	\$1 12	
	<hr/>	812 62
Cash paid out,		14,857 11
Taxes in hand, collector,		1,374 10
Cash " treasurer,		1,875 78
		<hr/>
Total Cash Received,		\$18,106 99

R. O. WRIGHT, *Treasurer.*

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

*The Selectmen in account with the Town of Plymouth, for
the year ending March 1, 1883.*

DR.

Cash and taxes in hands of Treasurer and Collector for the year 1881,	\$3,104 54
Taxes per Collector's account for 1882,	11,734 37
Cash received of State as per Treasurer's acct.,	2,943 32
from County for support of paupers,	240 60
billiard table tax,	20 00
highway district No. 4,	8 35
town of Dorchester,	39 00
Holderness, for lighting bridge,	12 81
town of Campton, for vaccinating,	4 00
	<hr/>
	\$18,106 99

CR.

Cash and abatements as per the Treasurer's account herewith submitted,	\$14,857 11
Cash in Treasurer's hands,	1,875 78
Taxes in Collector's hands,	1,374 10
	<hr/>
	\$18,106 99

D. H. CURRIER,
PLUMMER FOX,
J. A. PENNIMAN,
Selectmen of Plymouth.

REPORT OF THE OVERSEER OF THE POOR.

*Overseer of the Poor in account with the Town of Plymouth,
ending March 1, 1883.*

DR.

Cash order on Treasurer,	\$525 25	
Two orders on County Treasurer,	240 60	
Cash from town of Dorchester,	39 00	
	<u> </u>	\$804 85

CR.

Paid for County Paupers:

For support of Peabody Palmer,	49 75	
“ Fannie Clark,	53 00	
“ Anna B. Crooker,	39 00	
“ Perley Fassett,	37 00	
“ Cora Bell Streeter,	20 00	
“ Cordelia Adams,	25 50	
“ Two transient persons,	6 00	
	<u> </u>	230 25

Paid for the Town Paupers:

For support of Betsey Blodgett,	\$101 00	
“ Phebe J. Foster,	65 00	
“ John Lowd,	96 00	
Selectmen, two county orders,	240 60	
Cash from Dorchester,	39 00	
	<u> </u>	541 60

Town of Dorchester,

Paid for Mrs. Wm. Ripley,	33 00	
	<u> </u>	\$804 85

D. H. CURRIER, *Overseer of Poor.*

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF CEMETERIES.

For the year ending March 1, 1883.

DR.

To cash received from Town Treasurer,	\$84 89
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1882.

CR.

July 20.	By cash paid for pipe as per bill,	\$1 69
	“ “ express on pipe,	45
Aug. 4.	“ “ Z. Cook, as per bill,	75
5.	“ “ William Downing, as per bill,	15 00
Nov. 13.	“ “ T. I. Emerson, “	4 50
17.	“ “ J. Chase, “	1 50
18.	“ “ G. W. Garland, “	12 75
Dec. 22.	“ “ J. N. Smith, “	24 00
30.	“ “ J. F. Sanborn, “	1 50

1883.

Feb. 24.	“ “ B. F. Gould, “	1 00
	“ “ J. Burrows, “	3 75
	By cash paid Henry Cummings, “	\$3 00
27.	“ “ A. W. Avery, services as Supt.	15 00

\$84 89

Due for lots sold,

\$33 00

A. W. AVERY,

Superintendent.

INDEBTEDNESS OF THE TOWN.

March 1, 1883.

Outstanding notes and interest,	5,891 55	
Due J. Sanborn, land damage,	75 00	
Due J. Chandler, “	50 00	
	—————	\$6,016 55

ASSETS.

Due on J. F. & W. F. Langdon's note, \$	751 21	
Due from county,	58 00	
Due for two lots in cemetery,	33 00	
Cash in the hands of treasurer,	1,875 78	
Taxes in the hands of collector,	1,374 10	
	<hr/>	\$4,092 09
Balance against the town,		\$1,924 46
Debt less than last year,		\$3,407 00

We have examined the preceding accounts of the selectmen, treasurer and overseer of the poor, of the town of Plymouth, for the year ending March 1, 1883, and find them correct and properly vouched.

ALVIN BURLEIGH,
A. W. AVERY,

Auditors.

SCHOOL REPORT.

TO THE TOWN OF PLYMOUTH.

I submit the following report of the schools in town for year ending March 1st, 1883 :

District No. 1 has had two successful terms taught by Miss Louisa V. George and Mr. A. W. Drew. Mr. Drew is an original teacher and has some excellent ideas of what a school should be and how instruction should be given, but he is inclined to be too severe.

In No. 2, vacancies have occurred in the Grammar and High schools and Miss Strong and Miss McAlvin have been employed to fill them; Miss Reed and Miss Elliott remain in their respective departments. They are all trained, experienced teachers, but I am convinced from the results shown that there is something radically wrong, either in the frequent change of teachers, lack of discipline, the method of instruction or the system itself.

Miss Harriman taught three terms during the year in No. 3, and with this small school had good success.

Mr. Fred A. Wells again taught the school in No. 4, and in every respect last year's report is applicable.

In district No. 5, Miss Laura A. Whittemore taught the summer, and Miss Laura E. Randlett the fall term. Miss Whittemore has few new ideas, but insists upon good order. Miss Randlett interested the scholars from the beginning and taught a very successful term. The custom of boarding the teacher around disappeared from the district this year, we hope never to return.

Miss Emily W. Strong continued the Normal instruction during the spring term in No. 6, but with Miss Howe in the fall term, the school went back to the old method. The parents here prefer the former method and we hope in the future the committee will be able to secure such teachers.

Miss Emma Boardman had charge of both terms of the school in No. 8, and, while laboring under the disadvantages of a district divided against itself, gave good satisfaction.

In No. 9, Miss Fannie B. Clark continued her Normal work through the spring term, and Miss Cora L. Heath, another Normal graduate, had charge during the fall. This school is now well classed and in excellent condition.

In the fall, Miss Sarah M. Sargent taught her eighth consecutive term in No. 12. We wish such instances of retaining a teacher permanently were not as rare as they are in this town.

While our schools the past year will compare very favorably with those of former years, still I think they have not been attended with as much success as is desirable. And I am free to say that I do not think this lack of success is due wholly, or in a great measure to the fault of the teachers. On the contrary we have been unusually fortunate this year in securing teachers of experience and ability, who have been faithful and earnest in their endeavors to benefit their pupils. In seven of the schools the same teachers have been retained throughout the year, and as will be seen by the accompanying table, ten of the sixteen teachers this year have attended, and most of them have been graduates of the Normal School.

What then is the trouble with our schools? I answer, there are other elements in a good school besides the teacher.

An interest on the part of parents is an essential element which we lack. They cannot know what is being done except by personal inquiry and examination and they should make it a duty which they owe to the children and the schools to visit them, thus showing an interest beneficial to both teachers and scholars.

Another element is a proper number of scholars—neither too few nor too many. And this is not such a difficult problem—how to put two schools of six or eight scholars together under one teacher. Competition excites interest, but in small schools there is little or no competition for there are none to excel and but little interest for teacher or pupil. This leads me to speak of some of the districts in town as they are at present organized, and the number of scholars which they contain.

District No. 11 was, a few years ago, united with a district in Bridgewater and that town was given control of the school. Last year not a scholar from this town attended the school, while the amount of money allowed the district was \$30.47; this year the amount is \$35.42. No. 7 has been united with Hebron and the number of scholars reported last year was four and the amount of

money, \$22.87; this year it is increased to \$25.62. No. 10 has practically been united with No. 4, but the distance to that school is so great that the two scholars in the district have this year attended in Hebron and their tuition paid. In No. 3 where ten years ago there were thirty scholars, during the summer term there were but five in attendance and two of these from out of the district. During one week of the school there was not a scholar in attendance from the district. District No. 4 has had but nine weeks of school with three scholars from the district. Its amount of money including a special tax is \$172.98. There were twelve scholars enrolled in No. 5 for the summer term and eight for the fall, and they were given a school year of eleven and nine tenths weeks. In No. 8 there were seven scholars from the district and they had sixteen weeks of school. Here we have six districts whose combined attendance is only twenty five scholars and to which the town treasurer has this year paid the sum of \$498.45, making an average of \$19.93, while for the whole town it is only \$7.34.

It would seem as if some different arrangement could be made by which the scholars of this town could derive more benefit from the amount of money expended.

The legislature of our state has provided for such cases by the following statutes: "Any town may at any time abolish the school districts therein, and shall thereupon take possession of all the schools, houses, lands, apparatus and other property owned and used for school purposes, which such districts might lawfully sell or convey."—*Gen. Laws, Chap. 86, Sec. 2.*

Also, "School districts composed of the whole town shall at their annual meeting, elect a board of education who shall have and exercise all the powers and duties of Superintending and Prudential School Committees."—*Gen. Laws, Chap. 87, Sec. 16.*

The effect of these laws is to place the schools in the hands of a board of education who shall have power to employ all of the teachers, regulate the commencement and length of the terms, the place of attendance of the scholars, provide apparatus and have the general oversight and care of the schools.

The advantages of this system are many; but in brief, they are: 1st. All the children in the town are placed on the same basis of opportunity. 2nd. Better classification of the scholars. 3rd. With this better classification comes superior instruction of the more advanced scholars at less expense. Massachusetts has adopted this system, and many towns in New Hampshire have tried it,

and I have yet to learn of one that after a fair trial would go back to the district system.

During the year the selectmen and your committee have received three

PETITIONS

relating to changing the lines of districts Nos. 4, 5 and 8. Hearings were had on each of them and after mature deliberation it was decided, in view of the fact that some general change might soon be made, not to grant either of them. Should such general changes fail to be made, I recommend that changes similar to those asked for in the last petition of S. M. Morse and others be made, and district No. 4 be abolished.

TEXT BOOKS.

Two changes in text books have been made, Harpers' Series of Geographies and Swinton's Word Book being introduced. There is need of a change also in the histories used, and more attention should be given that study. The great variety of text books used in this town has caused a larger number of classes than would otherwise be necessary, and this has been an injury to the schools; and I have endeavored so far as possible to secure uniformity. The following is the list of books used in the schools, in which no change can be made for several years: Harpers' Geographies, Appleton's Readers, Swinton's Speller, Greenleaf's Arithmetics, and Swinton's Grammars.

APPARATUS.

All of our schools with the exception of those in district No. 2 are deficient in school apparatus. Each should be supplied with a dictionary, and some maps, and four of them need new blackboards. Through the kindness of Prof. Warren, some of the schools have had the use of supplementary readers used at the Normal School, and the beneficial results are plainly evident.

At the close of this report will be found a statistical table containing the summary for the year.

Respectfully Submitted.

A. S. HAZELTON,

Superintending School Committee.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

School.	Teachers.	Weeks of school.	No. scholars.	Boys.	Girls.	Av. Attendance.	Spelling.	Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.	History.	*Other Studies.	Av. Wages per Month.	Amt. of Money in cluding Special Taxes.	No. Visits by Com. Parents and Citizens.	Teachers attended Normal School.	
No. 1.	Louisa V. George.....	21.	34	11	23	29	34	34	15	27	16	5	4	9	\$27	\$170.67	4	16	1
No. 2.	Asa W. Drew..... Training, Ellen M. Reed..... Grammar, Emily W. Strong..... Grammar, C. { Anna C. Elliott..... { Annie J. McAlvin..... High { Anna C. Elliott..... { Annie J. McAlvin.....	36. 16.4 37.	76 35 23	34 19 7	42 16 16	69 30 20	76 35 23	76 35 23	76 35 23	76 35 23	76 35 23	56 35 23	76 35 23	166 120 98	75 82 35	1,510.41	5	No Report.	1
No. 3.	Alma Harriman.....	37.	27	7	20	25	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	73	32		2	2	1
No. 4.	Fred A. Wells.....	23.	14	6	8	3	14	14	10	10	8	5	1		20	122.28	3	4	
No. 5.	Laura A. Whittemore..... Laura E. Randlett..... Emily W. Strong.....	9. 11.9	6 12	3 5	3 7	4 10	6 12	6 12	4 6	8 7	4 4	2 3			24 21	172.98 58.30	2 4	1	
No. 6.	A. W. Howe.....	18.	43	20	23	39	30	43	43	43	24	10	10	16	36	156.25	5	17	1
No. 8.	Emma J. Boardman.....	16.	15	7	8	11	15	15	8	9	7	4			20	80.67	1	2	
No. 9.	Fannie B. Clark.....	23.	25	13	12	22	25	25	25	20	8	5	1	5	23.50	120.15	3	7	2
No. 12.	Cora L. Heath.....	17.	17	10	7	17	17	17	17	17	6	3	3	5	22	100.68	3		
Union with Hebbron.....	Sarah M. Sargent.....	10.	2	2	1	3	No rep't	No rep't	No rep't	No rep't	No rep't	No rep't	No rep't	No rep't	25.60	25.60	1	1	
Union with Bridgewater.....		10.	2	2	2	2	No rep't	No rep't	No rep't	No rep't	No rep't	No rep't	No rep't	No rep't	35.42	35.42			
Totals.....		255.3	342	144	198	288	314	327	289	300	238	178	160	480	30.65	\$2,556.91	35	56	10

*Music, Drawing, Book-keeping, Botany, Algebra and Geometry.

*Music, Drawing, Book-keeping, Botany, Algebra and Geometry.

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